

Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System

2011 Flood Regulation

US Army
Corps of Engineers

20 July 2011



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG®



Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System



Congressionally Authorized Project Purposes

Flood Control
Navigation
Hydropower
Irrigation
Recreation
Water Supply
Water Quality
Fish and Wildlife
(Including endangered species)

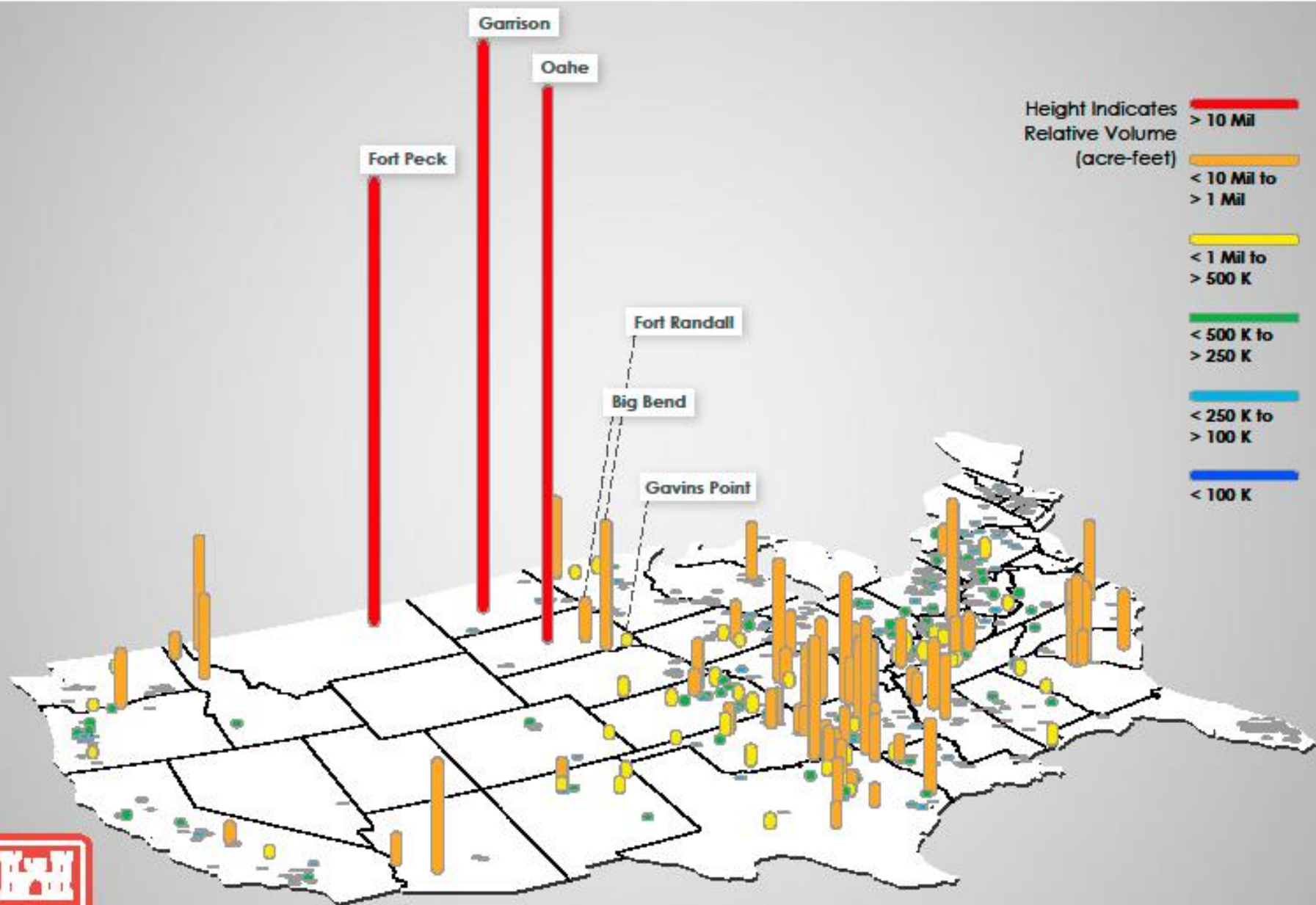
Bank Stabilization and Navigation Project

Sioux City, IA – St. Louis, MO

BUILDING STRONG®



Storage Capacity of Corps Reservoirs

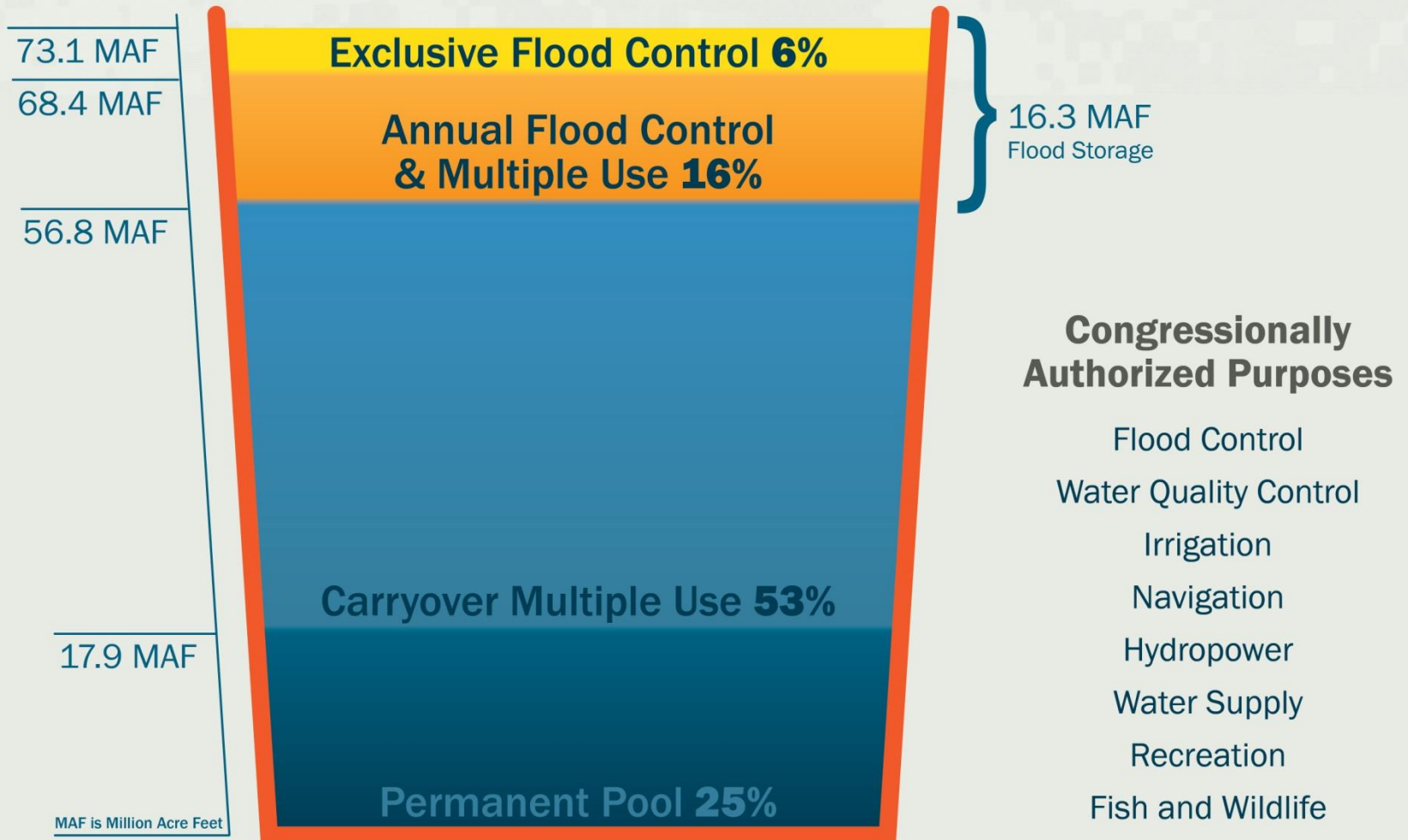




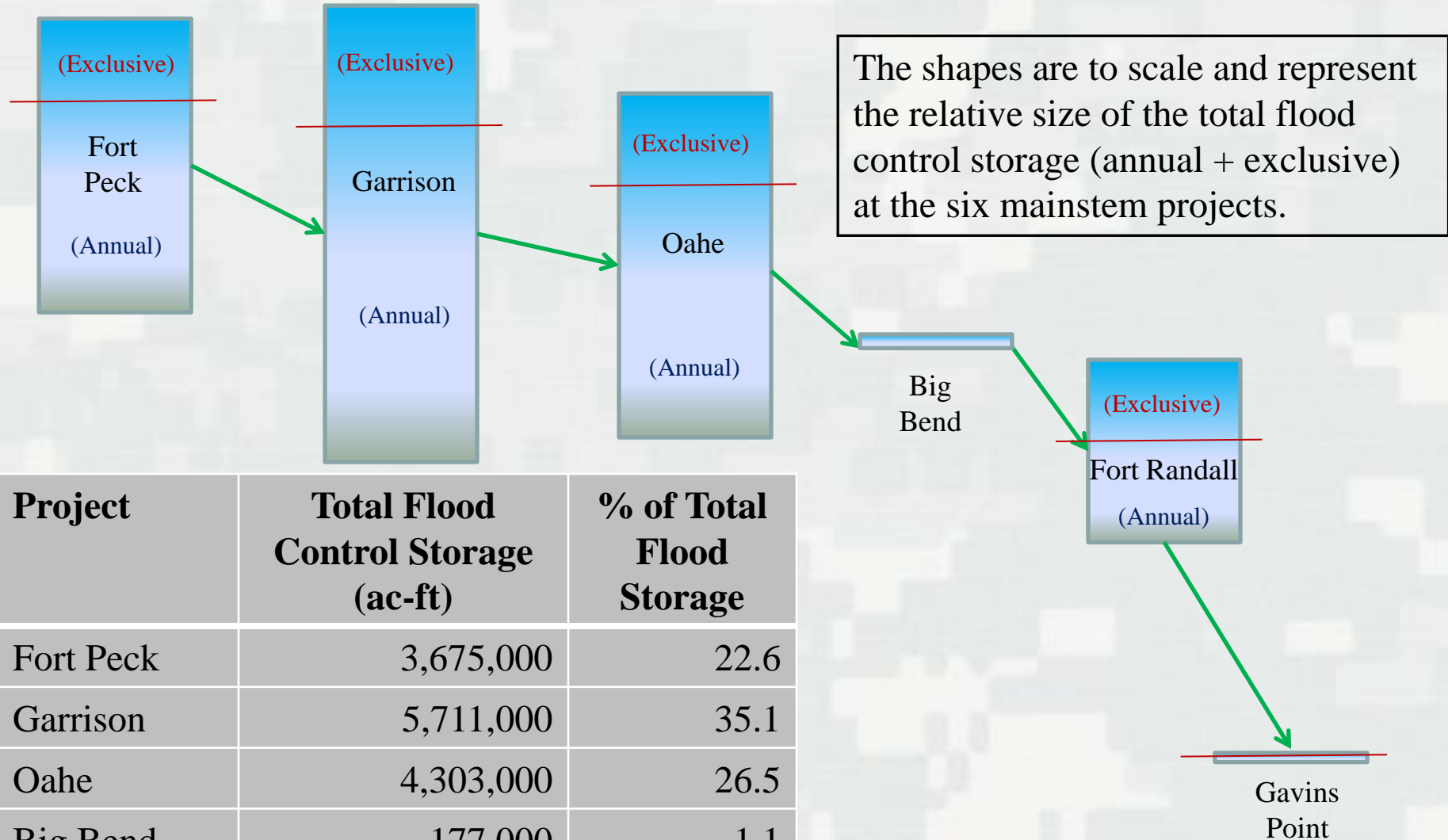
US Army Corps of Engineers
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Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System

Zones & Allocations of the Total Storage Capacity

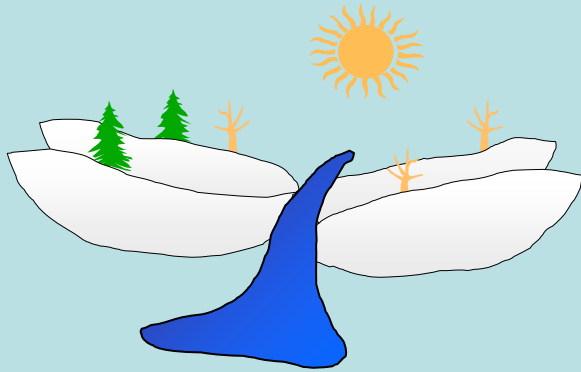


Flood Control Storage



Runoff Components

Plains Snowpack



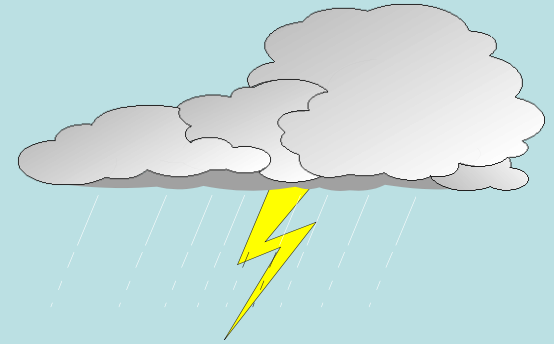
March and April

Mountain Snowpack



May, June and July

Rainfall



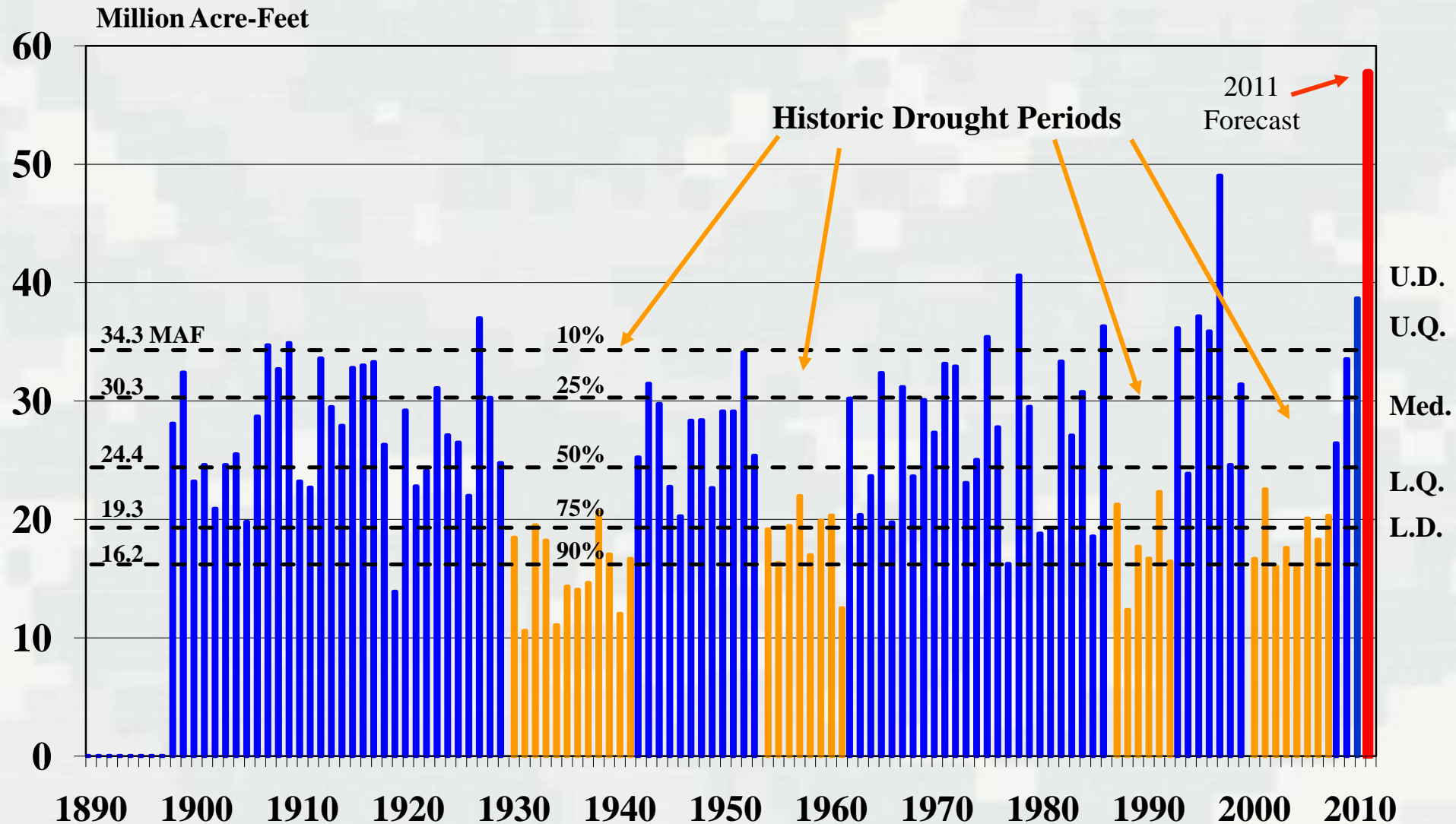
March through October

2011 Forecast* = 57.7 MAF

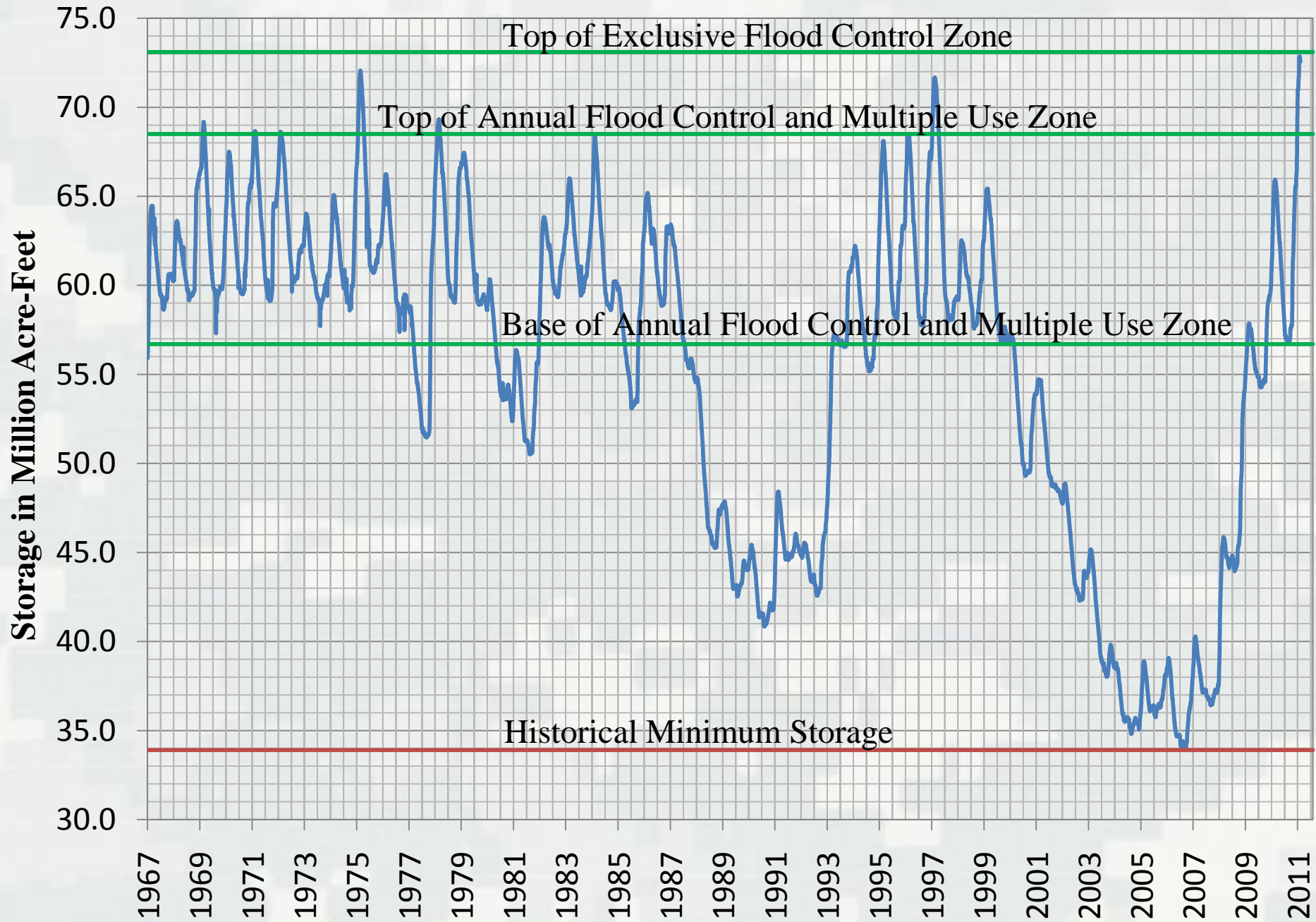
Highest runoff since 1898

Previous Record was 49.0 MAF in 1997

Missouri River Mainstem System Annual Runoff above Sioux City, IA

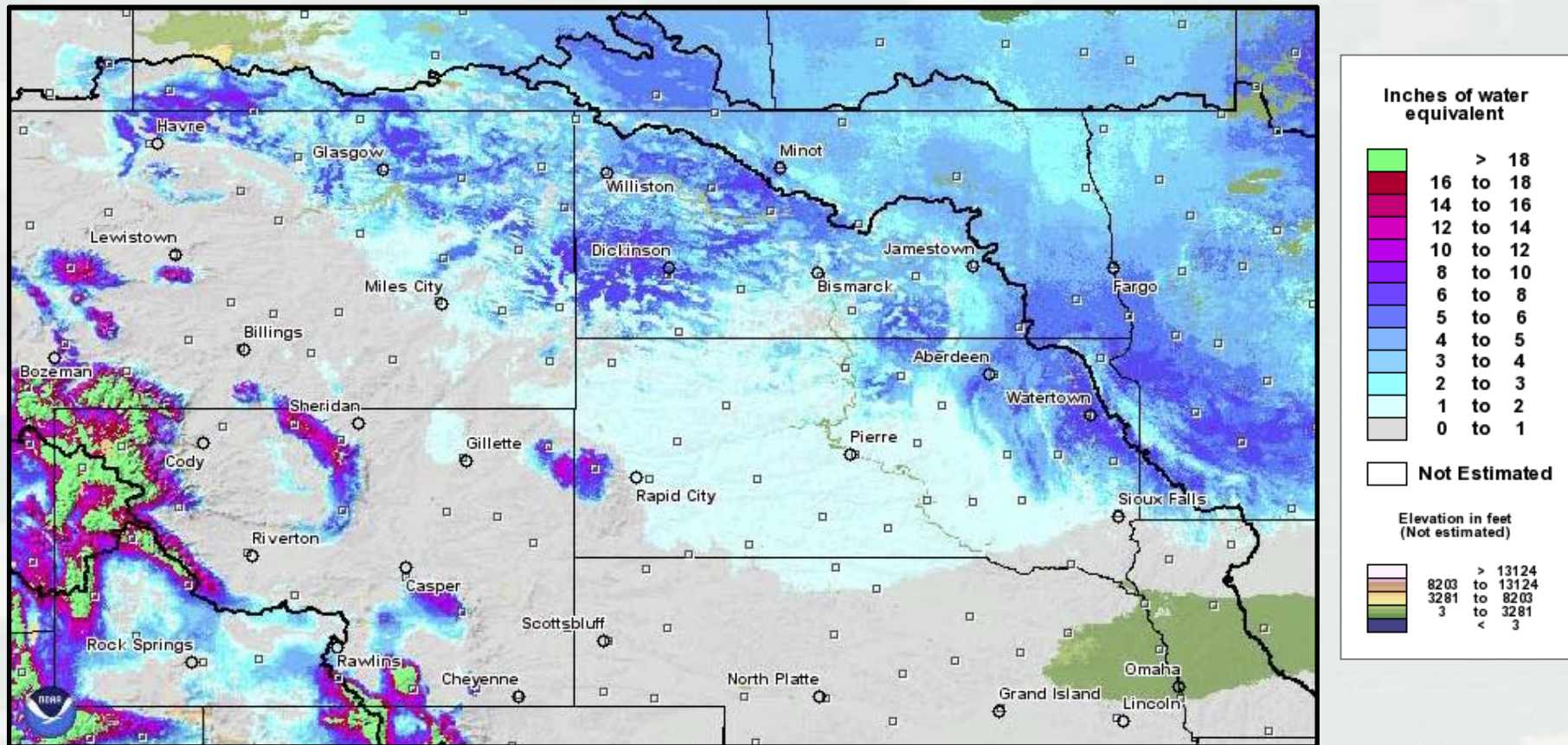


Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System



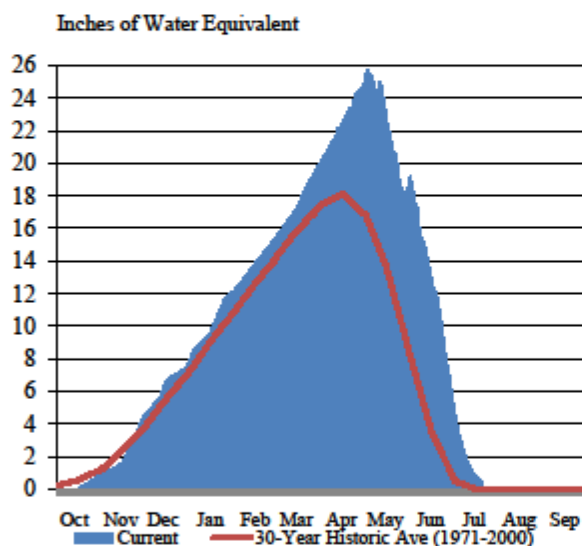
Plains Snowpack

25 February 2011

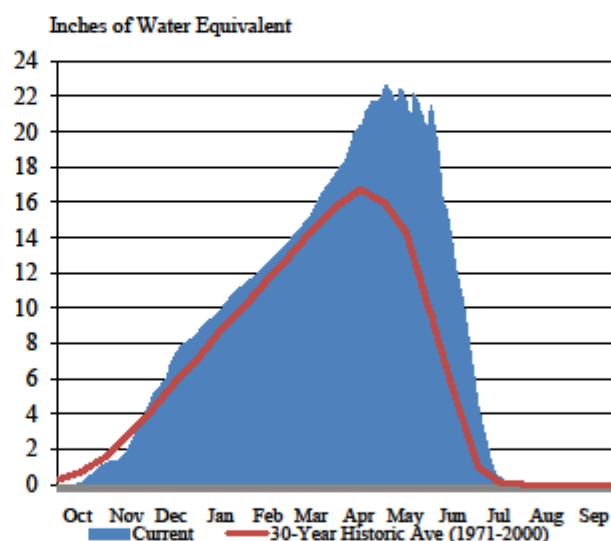


Missouri River Basin Mountain Snowpack Water Content 2010-2011

Total above Fort Peck



Total Fort Peck to Garrison



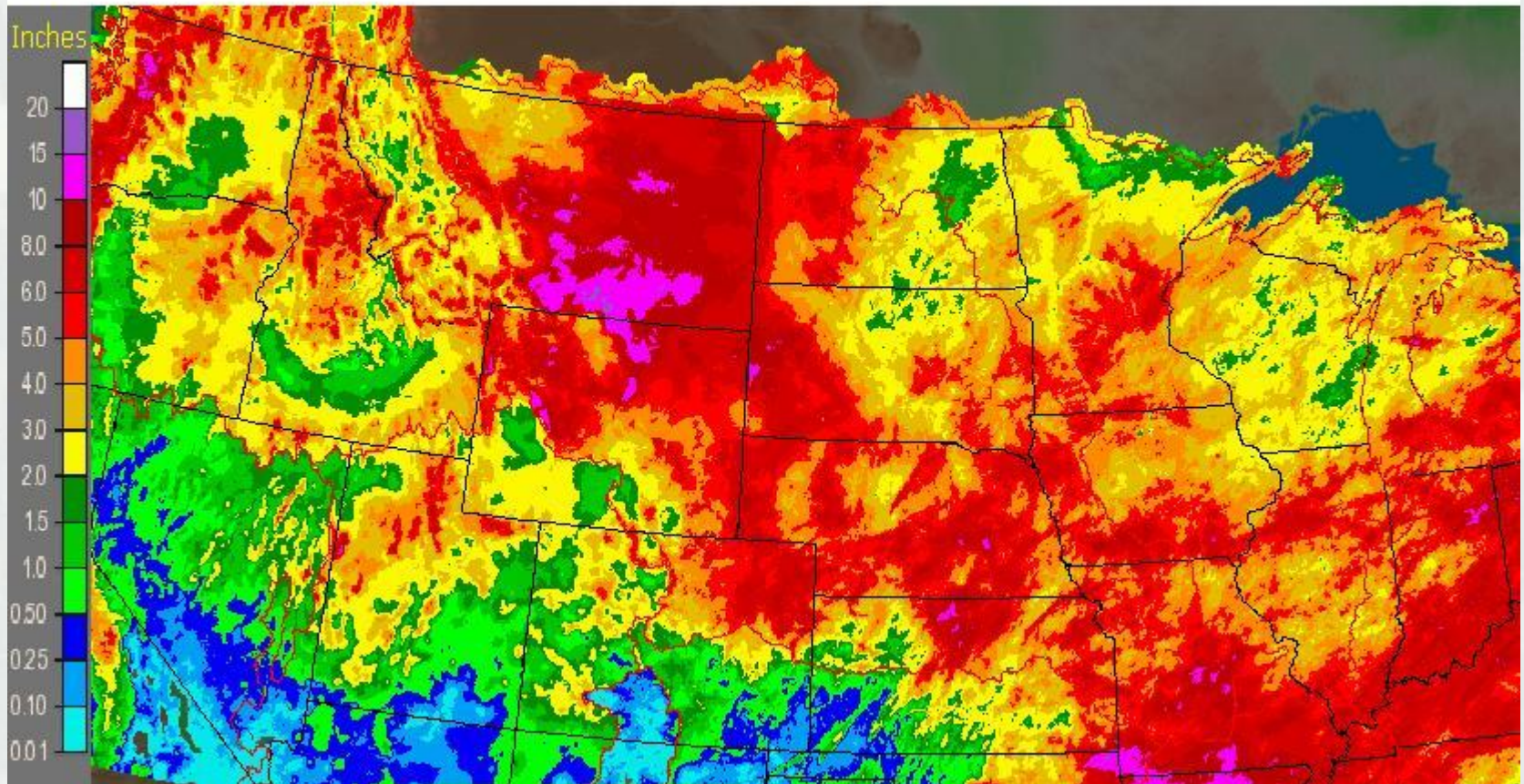
The Missouri River Basin mountain snowpack normally peaks near April 15. The mountain snowpack in both the "Total above Fort Peck" and the "Total Fort Peck to Garrison" reaches peaked on May 2 at 141 percent and 136 percent of the normal April 15 peak, respectively. The current mountain snowpack, as of July 19, is 3 percent and 1 percent of the normal April 15 peak in the "Total above Fort Peck" and the "Total Fort Peck to Garrison" reaches, respectively.

July 19, 2011

Provisional data. Subject to revision.

May 2011 Precipitation

Missouri Basin RFC Pleasant Hill, MO: May, 2011 Monthly Observed Precipitation
Valid at 6/1/2011 1200 UTC- Created 6/2/11 17:40 UTC



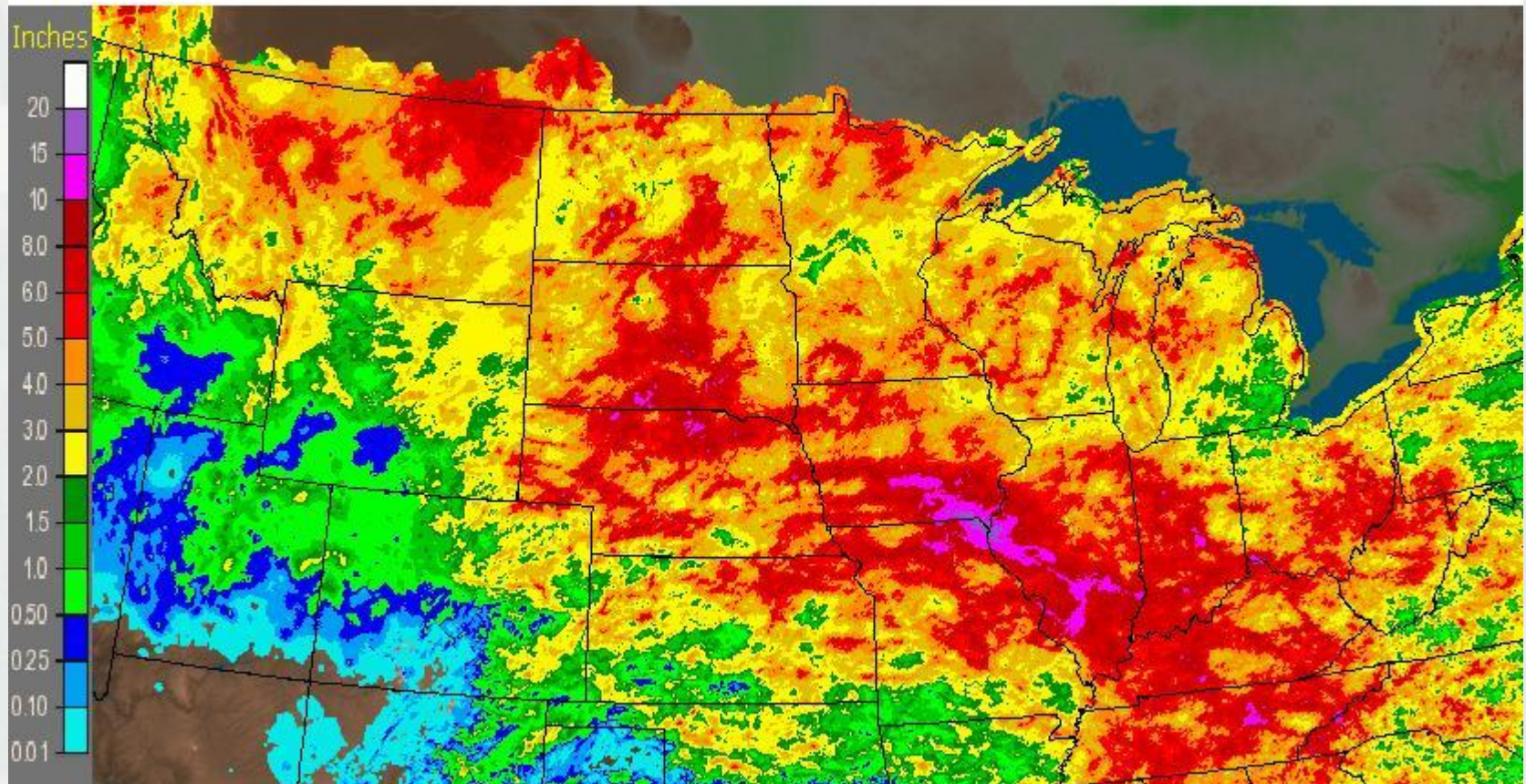
Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir

May 2011 Runoff

| | <u>2011</u> | <u>Previous May</u> <u>Record</u> |
|------------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| Fort Peck | 2.9 MAF | 2.6 MAF(1975) |
| Garrison | 4.4 MAF | 2.8 MAF(1978) |
| Fort Peck and Garrison | 7.3 MAF | 6.7 MAF(1952) |
| Total Above Sioux City | 10.5 MAF | 7.2 MAF(1995) |

June 2011 Precipitation

NWS Central Region: June, 2011 Monthly Observed Precipitation
Valid at 7/1/2011 1200 UTC- Created 7/2/11 17:40 UTC



Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir

June 2011 Runoff

Total runoff above Sioux City = 13.8 MAF

Highest single month on record

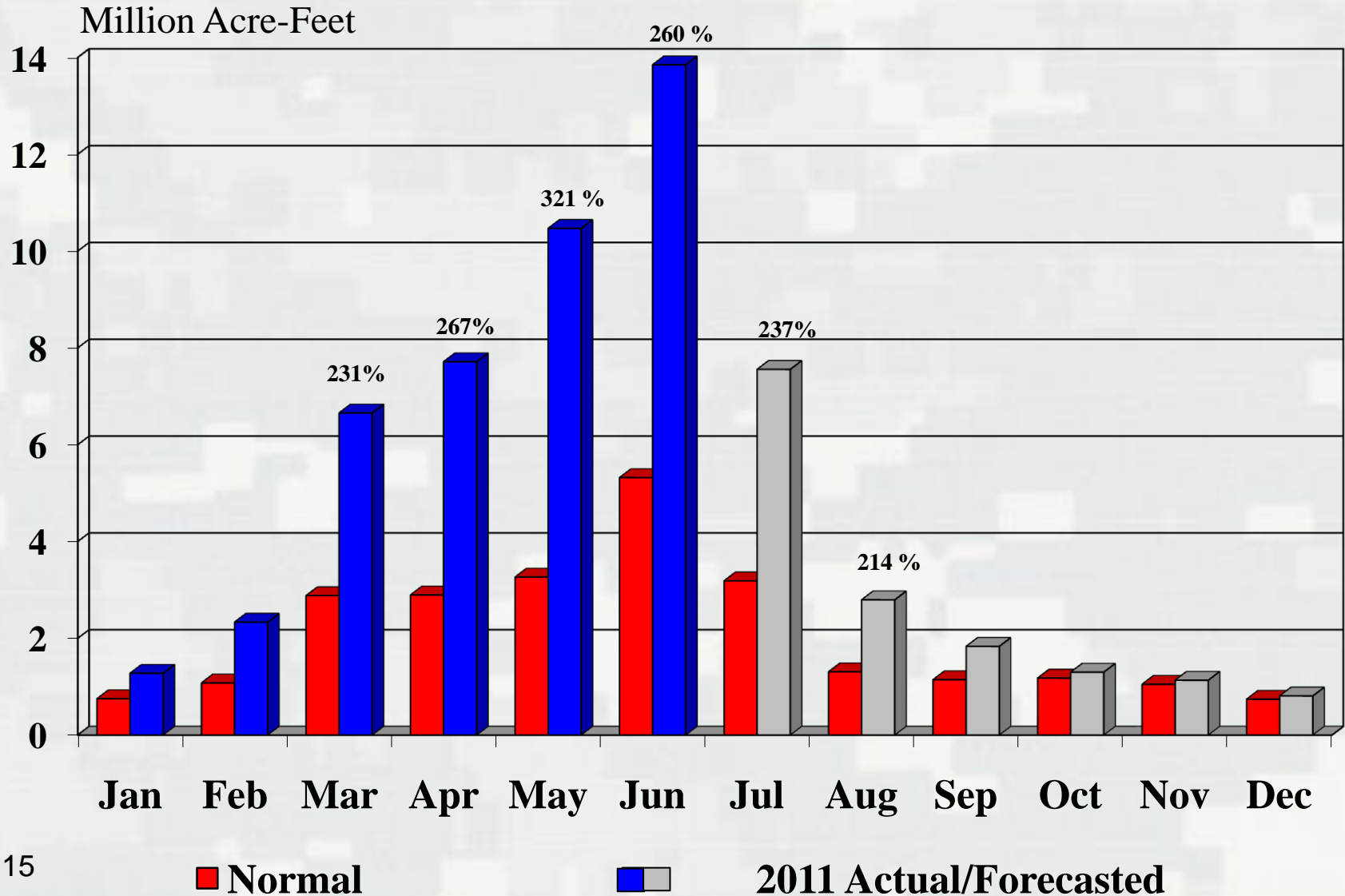
Previous record was 13.2 MAF in April 1952

| | <u>2011</u> | <u>Previous June</u> <u>Record</u> |
|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| Garrison | 6.2 MAF | 5.1 MAF(1909) |
| Fort Randall | 0.9 MAF | 0.7 MAF(1962) |
| Total Above Sioux City | 13.8 MAF | 10.3 MAF(1909) |



Missouri River Runoff above Sioux City

2011 Actual/Forecasted versus Normal



2011 Mainstem System Regulation

(What We Forecast)

- Full flood control capacity of the mainstem reservoir system was available at the start of the 2011 runoff season
 - ▶ 2010 was 3rd highest runoff year on record
 - ▶ All flood water was evacuated prior to start of runoff
- Until rain events in May, there was no need to evacuate water at historic levels
 - ▶ April 1 runoff forecast = 33.8 MAF; Gavins Point peak releases = 39 to 45 kcfs
 - ▶ May 1 runoff forecast = 44.0 MAF; Gavins Point peak releases = 57.5 kcfs
 - ▶ June 1 runoff forecast = 54.6 MAF; Gavins Point peak releases = 150 kcfs



2011 Mainstem System Regulation

(What Actually Happened)

- Unprecedented runoff occurred in the Missouri River Basin above Sioux City, Iowa during May and June
 - ▶ June was the single wettest month on record with 13.8 MAF of runoff, surpassing the old record of 13.2 MAF set in April 1952.
 - ▶ May was the third wettest month on record, with 10.5 MAF of runoff shattering the previous May record of 7.2 MAF set in May 1995
 - ▶ Combined May and June runoff of 24.3 MAF is just short of a normal annual runoff of 24.8 MAF



2011 Mainstem System Regulation

(Dispelling Rumors and Myths)

- Mainstem Reservoir System has been operated in accordance with the Master Manual, with flood control as the highest purpose.
- Release schedules have been coordinated with Corps Divisions along the Mississippi River, but we do not have authority to regulate the mainstem reservoir system solely for the benefit of the Mississippi River.
- No operational decisions have been driven by Endangered Species Act (nesting least terns and piping plovers or pallid sturgeon); reservoirs have been operating for flood risk reduction.
- The dams are safe and we're monitoring them closely.
- We released water when we should have; we could not have evacuated earlier.



2011 Mainstem System Regulation

(The Way Ahead)

- Longer-term flood evacuation strategy will be released in the next week or two
- Criteria used in development of evacuation strategy
 - ▶ Evacuate exclusive flood control zones of all reservoirs asap
 - ▶ Ensure fall releases are low enough to facilitate damage assessment and repair of dams and levees
 - ▶ Ensure winter releases are low enough to permit winter construction and minimize the risk of ice jam flooding
 - ▶ Ensure rates of change in releases and reservoir levels are acceptable
 - ▶ Consider releases that take water off critical infrastructure
 - ▶ Consider release that negate the use of various project features such as spillways and outlet tunnels
 - ▶ Consider releases that allow temporary measures to be removed



Questions?



Background slides



Fort Peck



Garrison



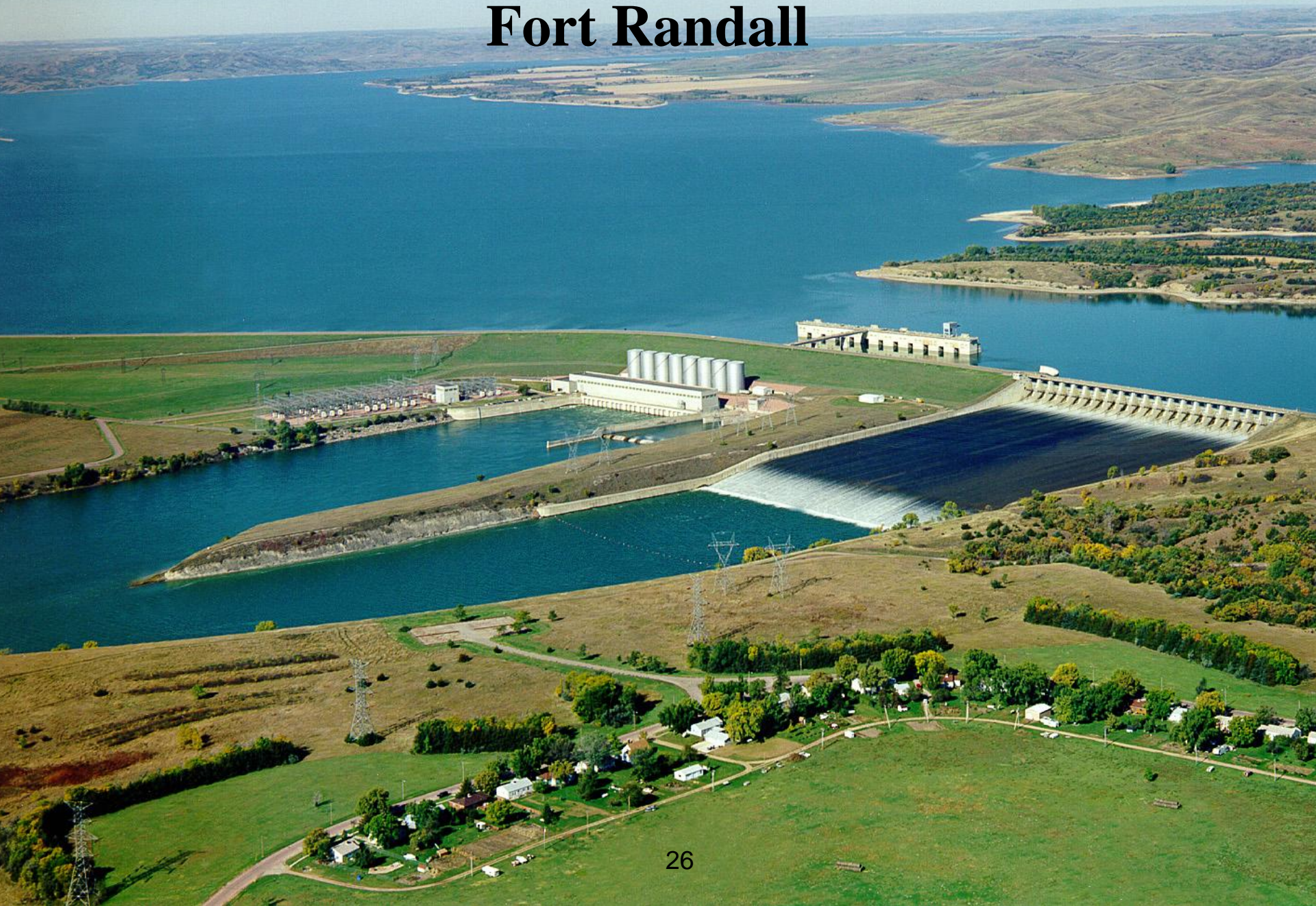
Oahe



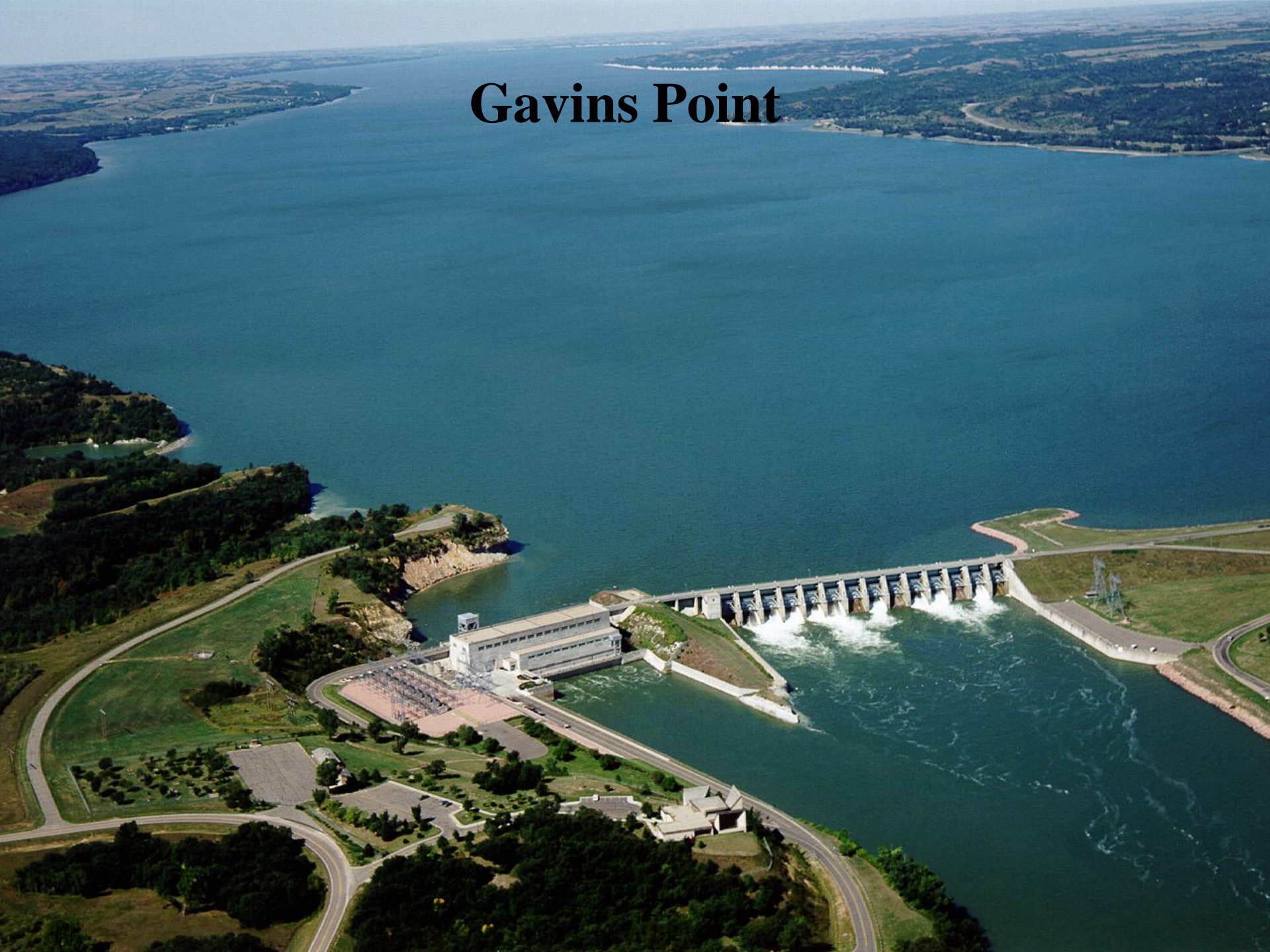
Big Bend



Fort Randall

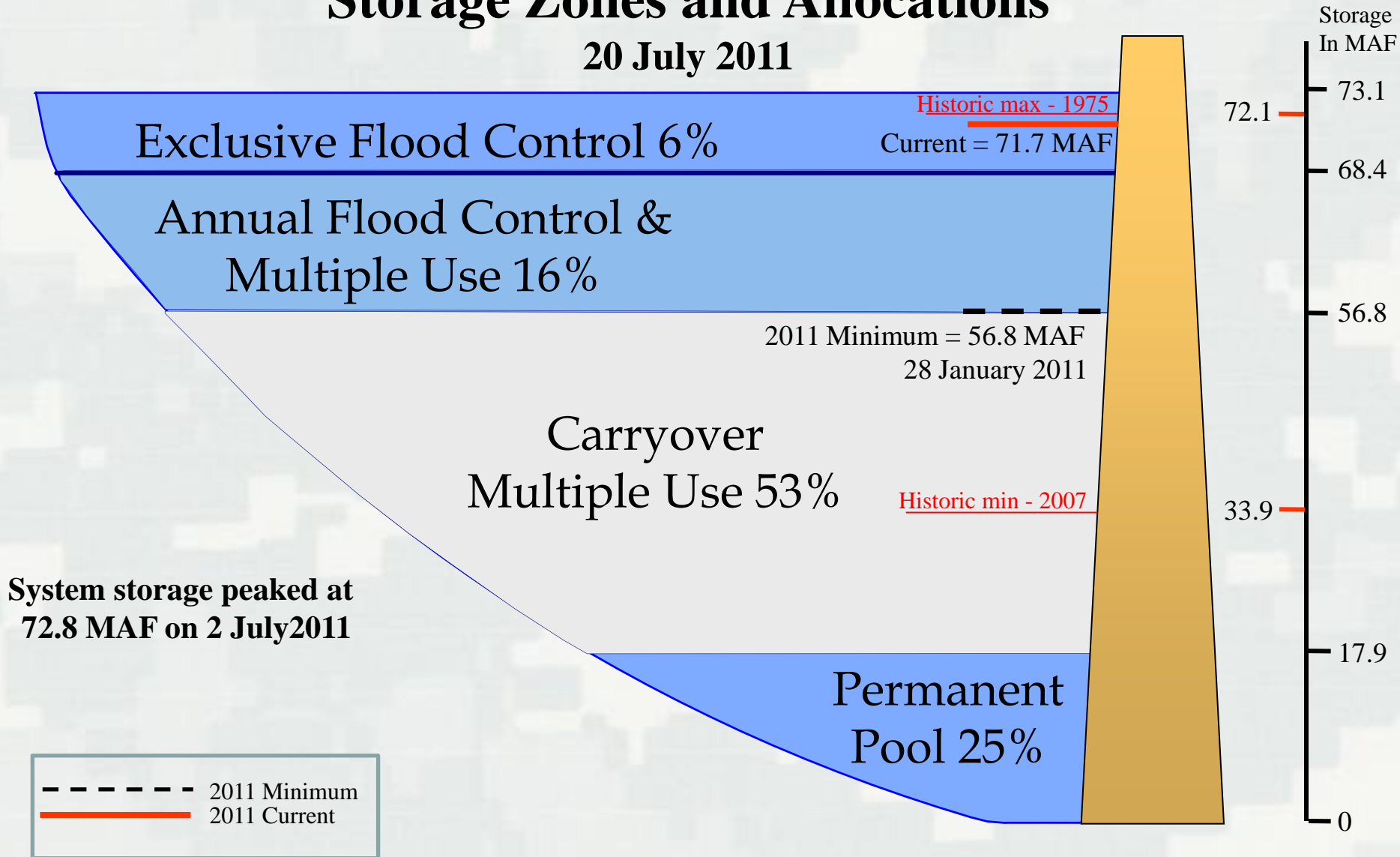


Gavins Point



Missouri River Mainstem System Storage Zones and Allocations

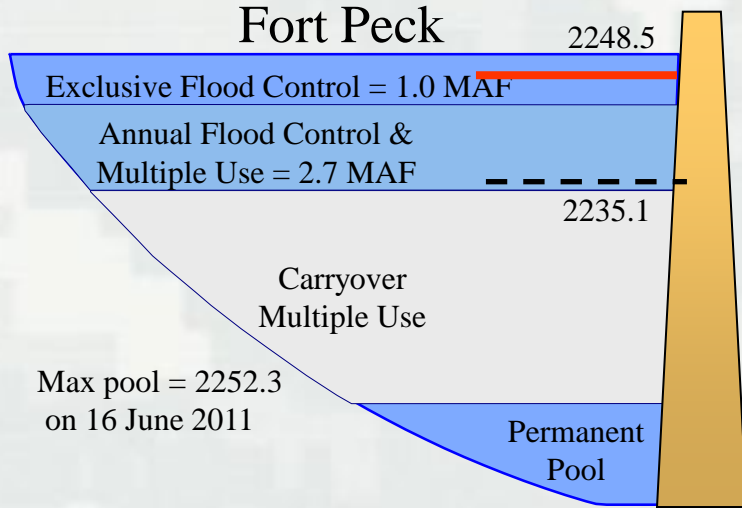
20 July 2011



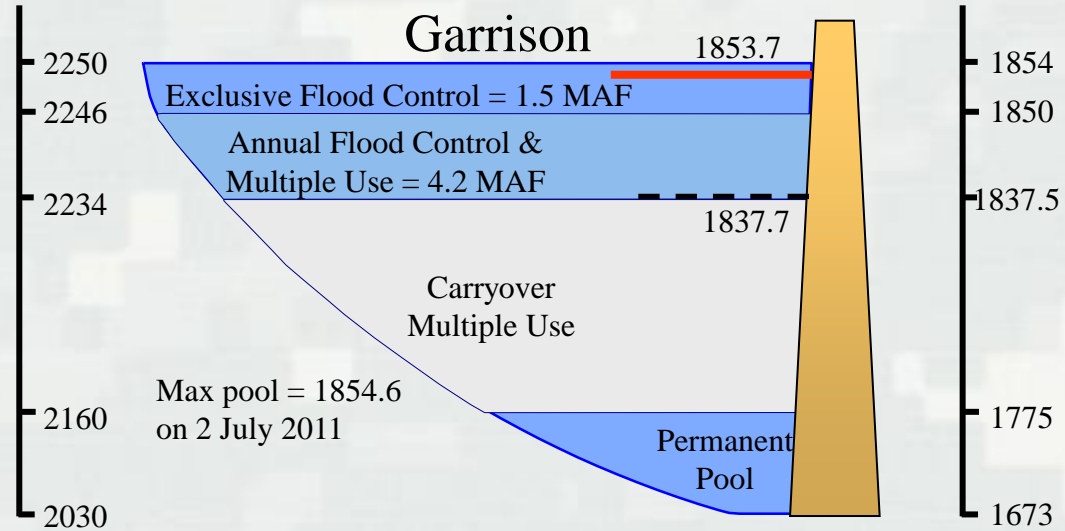
Mainstem Reservoir Levels

20 July 2011

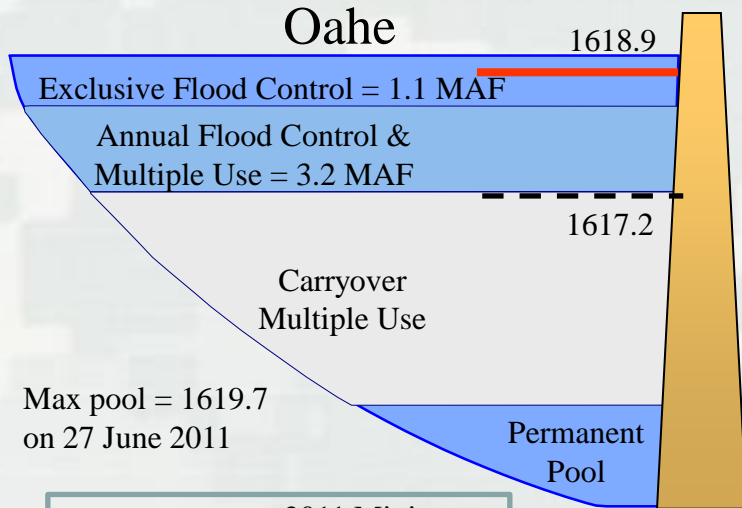
Fort Peck



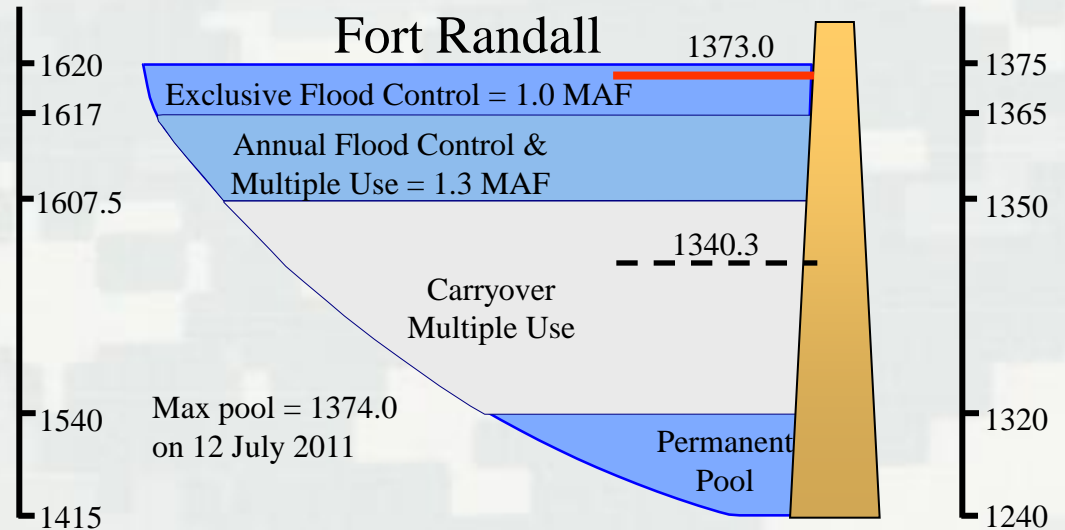
Garrison



Oahe

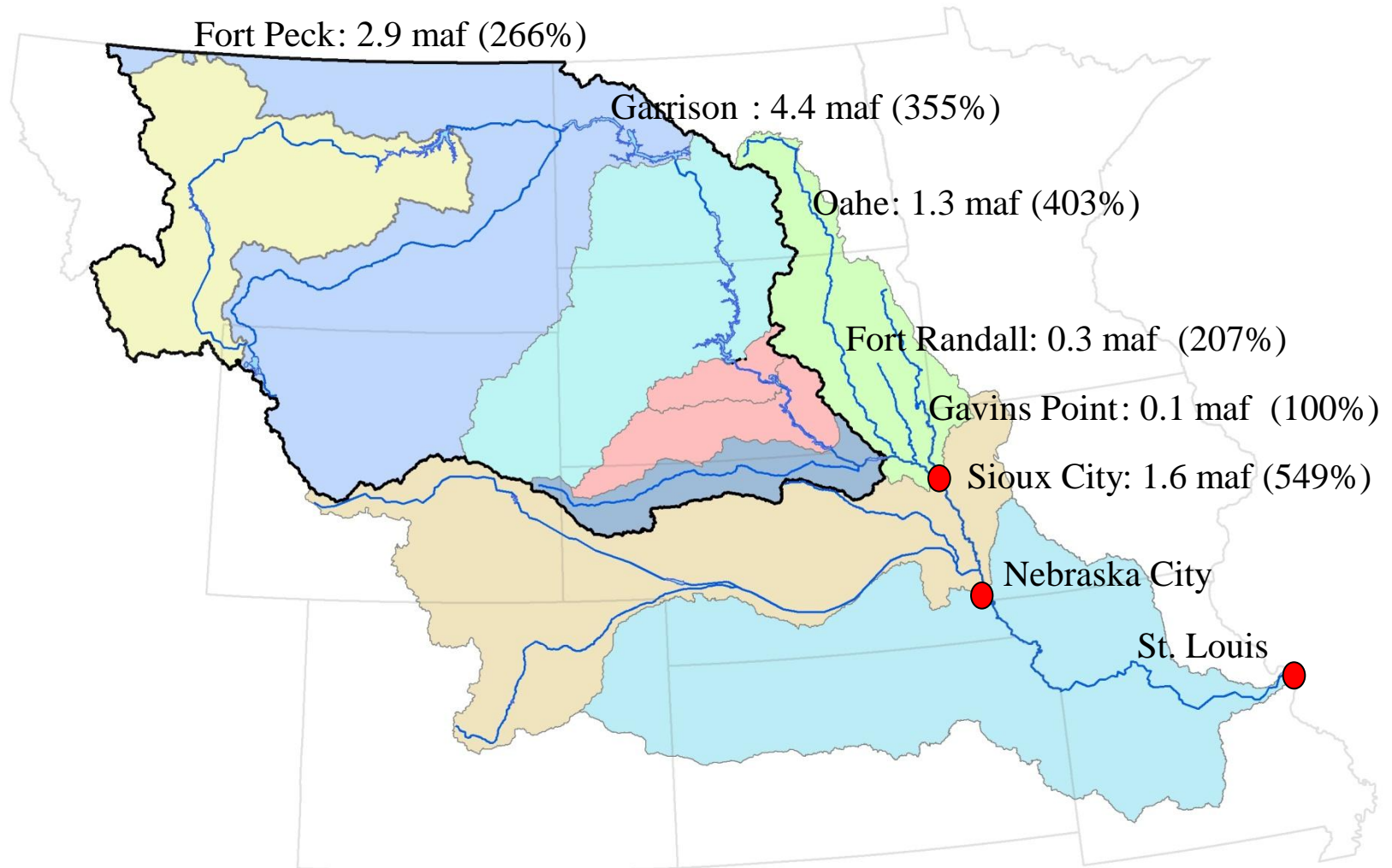


Fort Randall

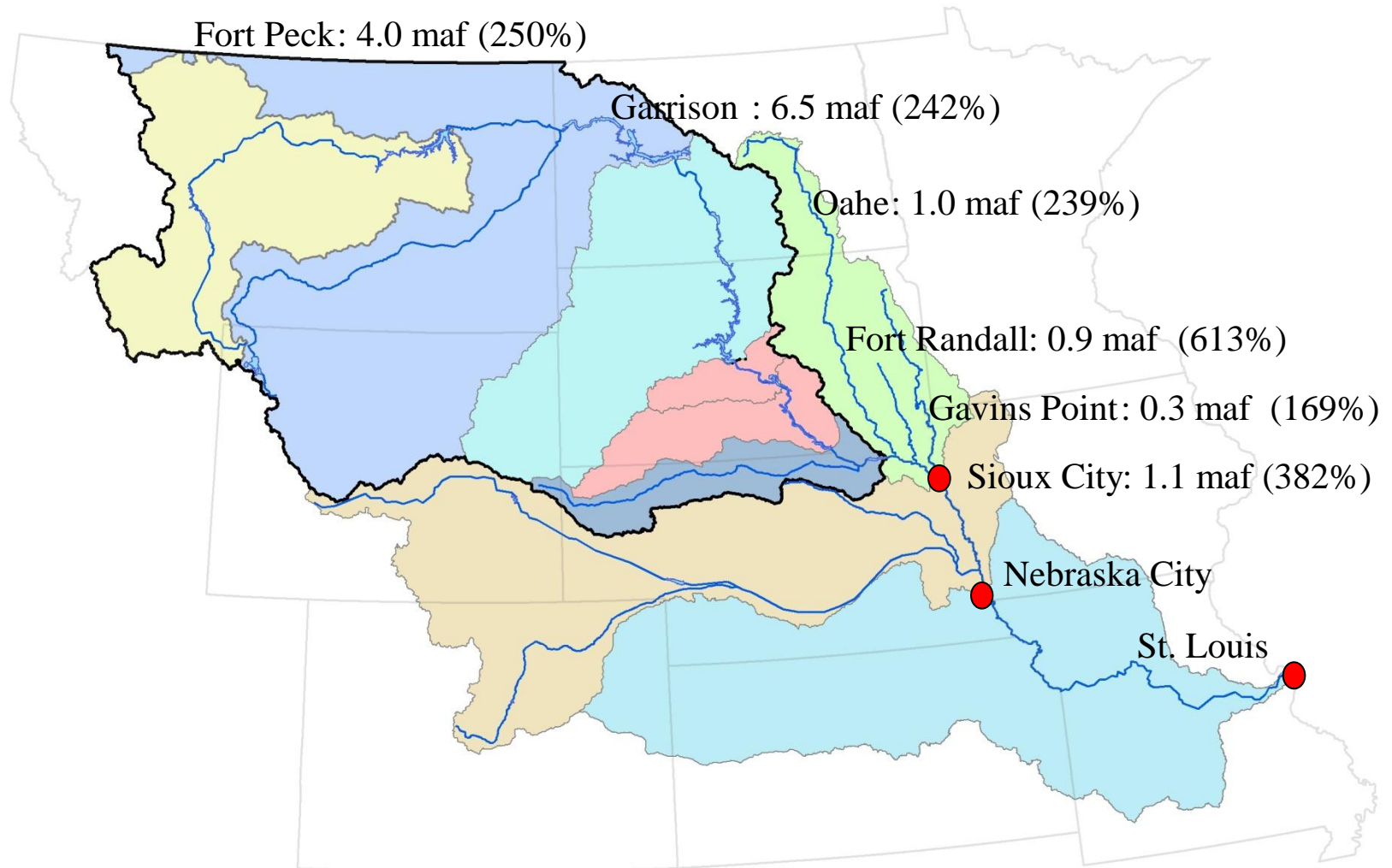


--- 2011 Minimum
 --- 2011 Current

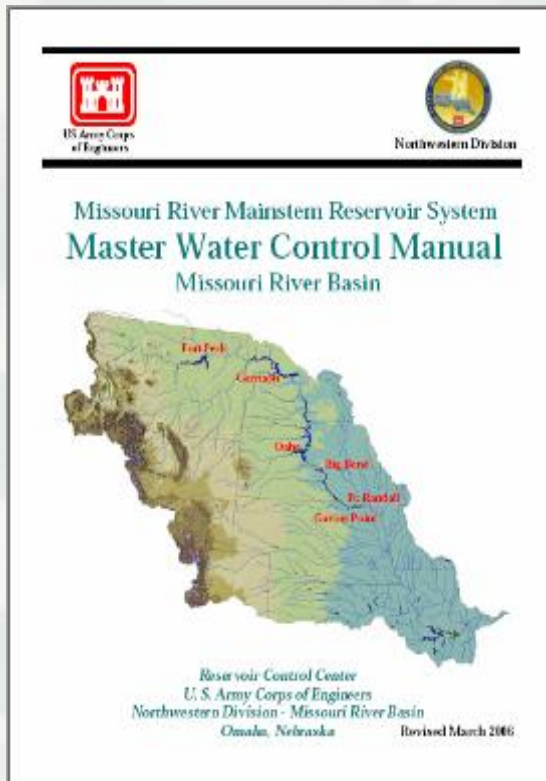
Missouri River Basin – May 2011 Runoff



Missouri River Basin – June 2011 Runoff



Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System Master Manual



- First published in 1960
- Updated in 1975 and 1979
- Master Manual Review and Update began in November 1989 in response to late 1980's / early 1990's drought
- Amended Biological Opinion received from USFWS in December 2003
- Manual was revised for drought conservation in March 2004
- Again revised in March 2006 for Gavins Point spring pulse
- Annual Operating Plan (AOP) developed annually in accordance with Master Manual